



COUNTY OF KAUAI

News Release

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Mayor delivers legislative message

HONOLULU – Mayor Bernard Carvalho, Jr. provided testimony today during a joint hearing of the Senate Ways and Means Committee and the House Finance Committee.

Mayor Carvalho opened his remarks by thanking the legislators for collaborating with Kaua'i County on many projects and asked for their continuing partnership in 2016.

The mayor also acknowledged the legislators for granting each county the authority to levy up to a 0.5 percent surcharge on the general excise tax (GET).

"This will enable Kaua'i County to address major issues for residents and visitors who rank the 'condition of roads' and 'traffic congestion' at the top of their list of concerns," said Mayor Carvalho.

Noting that the GET surcharge is limited in scope to transportation and transit projects, the mayor expressed support for the work of the State-County Functions Working Group, who recommended that the transient accommodations tax (TAT) cap be lifted and that each county be allocated an equitable amount that was determined by a formula.

The mayor also touched upon the 2016 Kaua'i County Legislative Package and asked for the legislators support on capital projects including an adolescent treatment and healing center, Kaua'i Fire Department helicopter hanger, Salt Pond Master Plan and the Veterans Cemetery Facility Construction and Improvements.

To access the mayor's testimony in its entirety, please go to the announcements section of the county's website, www.kauai.gov/announcements.